

## Message Text

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65

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 USPS-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-10 SAJ-01 IO-11 CCO-00 OTPE-00 EB-07

FCC-02 OC-05 COME-00 BIB-01 /107 W

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R 091343Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7991

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION USBERLIN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, QW, GE

SUBJ: FRG - GDR POSTAL AGREEMENT SIGNED.

REF: BONN 5440

1. ON MARCH 30, 1976 THE DEPUTY SECRETARIES OF THE FRG AND GDR MINISTRIES FOR POSTS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS, DIETRICH ELIAS (FRG) AND MANFRED CALOV (GDR) SIGNED A GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT AND THREE ADMINISTRATIVE AGREEMENTS CONCERNING BI-LATERAL POSTAL AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, SERVICES BETWEEN FRG TERRITORY AND WEST BERLIN THROUGH THE GDR, TRANSIT SERVICES TO THIRD COUNTRIES, AND COORDINATION OF RADIO FREQUENCY USAGE. THE AGREEMENTS COME INTO EFFECT ON JULY 1, 1976.

2. AT THE SIGNING CEREMONY IN THE BUNDESPOST MINISTRY IN BONN, ELIAS SAID THAT IN VIEW OF THE BIG VOLUME OF POSTAL AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES BETWEEN THE FRG AND GDR THE CONTRACTING PARTIES HAD AGREED TO SIMPLIFY AS FAR AS POSSIBLE

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THE USAGE CONDITIONS AND FORMALITIES FOR

THESE SERVICES AS COMPARED TO THE RATHER COMPLICATED REGULATIONS OF THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION AND INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION. IT WAS AGREED ALSO TO ARRANGE SERVICES BETWEEN THE FRG AND WEST BERLIN AS SIMPLY AND EFFECTIVELY AS POSSIBLE. CALOV CALLED THE AGREEMENTS A CONTRIBUTION TO CONSOLIDATION OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE BETWEEN THE GDR AND THE FRG AND TO WORLDWIDE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION. HE SAID THE EXTENSION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE AGREEMENTS TO WEST BERLIN IS IN ACCORD WITH THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT OF SEPTEMBER 3, 1971 AND WITH THE PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED FOR THIS PURPOSE, WHEREBY REGULATIONS BETWEEN THE COMPETENT AUTHORITIES (ORGANE) OF THE GDR AND THE COMPETENT AUTHORITIES (BEHOERDEN) IN WEST BERLIN REMAIN UNTOUCHED.

3. THE AGREEMENTS PROVIDE INTER ALIA THAT POSTAL TRAINS BETWEEN THE FRG AND WEST BERLIN WILL USE THE BORDER CROSSING POINTS AT HOF, BEBRA AND BUECHEN IN ADDITION TO THE PRESENTLY USED CROSSING AT HELMSTEDT. PRESENT REQUIREMENTS FOR DISINFECTION CERTIFICATES IN GIFT PARCELS TO THE GDR CONTAINING USED SHOES AND TEXTILES WILL BE ABOLISHED. IF GDR AUTHORITIES CONFISCATE OR REJECT PARCELS FROM THE FRG, THEY WILL HAVE TO STATE THE REASON FOR SUCH ACTION. NEW CIRCUITS ARE PLANNED FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES.

4. COMMENT:  
THE AGREEMENTS WERE CONCLUDED AFTER MORE THAN THREE YEARS OF VERY TOUGH NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE MINISTRIES. THEY WILL IMPROVE THE SITUATION IN WEST BERLIN IN THAT MAIL SERVICE WILL BE ACCELERATED BY ADDITIONAL POSTAL TRAIN TRAFFIC. THEY ALSO CREATE THE PREREQUISITES FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW TELECOMMUNICATIONS CHANNELS WITH WEST BERLIN.  
HILLENBRAND

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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